

Jim Doyle
Governor



Reggie Bicha
Secretary

State of Wisconsin
Department of Children and Families

201 East Washington Avenue, Room G200
P.O. Box 8916
Madison, WI 53708-8916

Telephone: 608-267-3905
Fax: 608-266-6836
dcf.wisconsin.gov

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**Statement from Secretary Reggie Bicha on
La Causa Announcement**

Yesterday, CEO and President Hugo Cardona of La Causa, Inc. informed me that La Causa will not be renewing its 2009 contract with the Department of Children and Families to provide on-going case management and safety services for the Bureau of Milwaukee Child Welfare.

La Causa has been a valued partner that has worked with the State for many years. We respect their decision. I would like to thank Mr. Cardona, La Causa and their staff for the work they have done on behalf of children and families in Milwaukee.

Moving forward, we are developing a plan to achieve the orderly transition of responsibilities. La Causa and the Department of Children and Families have no higher priority than to ensure the safety and well being of the children served by La Causa and BMCW throughout this transition. Mr. Cardona has assured me that La Causa will continue to serve the children of Milwaukee until a replacement is secured. The Department of Children and Families will work closely with La Causa employees during this transition to ensure that the continuity of care is maintained.

Reggie Bicha, Secretary
Wisconsin Department of Children and Families